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|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s)    |
|                               | 10/510,638      | SUZUKI, AKIHIRO |
|                               | Examiner        | Art Unit        |
|                               | Devona E. Faulk | 2615            |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 1/14/2008.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-6.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Response to Remarks***

1. The applicant has cancelled claim 1.
2. Claims 2-6 were indicated as allowable in the previous office action.. However, the examiner determined that an examiner's amendment was necessary to place to the claims in allowable form.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael S. Huppert (Reg. No. 40,268) on 2/19/2008.

The claims are to be amended as follows:

#### **Claim 2 should be amended to recite:**

A broadcasting system having a plurality of input devices for receiving sound, a plurality of output devices for broadcasting the sound, and a controller interconnected with said input and output devices through a network, said broadcasting system characterized in that: said controller, in response to a broadcasting request from an arbitrary one of said input devices, delivers routing data to all of said input devices indicative of a combination of said one input device, which has made the broadcasting request,

and said output device or devices which should broadcast the sound from said one input device,

wherein said controller comprises a broadcasting pattern table which records a plurality of broadcasting patterns indicative of combinations of source input devices with destination output devices,

wherein said controller sends said plurality of broadcasting patterns to said input devices and said input devices register the plurality of broadcasting patterns when said input devices are initially set.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 2-6 are allowed.

Regarding claim 2, the prior art (AAPA) (Figures 6A,6B; page 1, line 12-page 4, line 15) discloses a broadcasting system having a plurality of input devices for receiving sound (inputs 11-14, Figure 6A), a plurality of output devices for broadcasting the sound (output devices 21-24, Figure 6A), and a controller interconnected with said input and output devices through a network (30, Figure 6A; a networks is define as an interconnected configuration or system of components; Figure 6A reads on the claim language), said broadcasting system characterized in that:

Said controller, in response to a broadcasting request from an arbitrary one of said input devices, delivers routing data (page 1, lines 24-page 2, line 5) indicative of a combination of said input device which has made the broadcasting request, and said output device or devices which should broadcast the sound from said input device to all of said one input devices (page 1, lines 12-page 2, line 5, Figure 6B). Prior art Ueda

(US 5,436,888) discloses communication path control method and communication device. Prior art Newman (US 5,245,603) discloses high-speed determining unit for prioritizing and arbitration among competing input signals. Prior art Yanagi et al. (US 5,394,397) discloses a broadcasting pattern table which records a plurality of broadcasting patterns indicative of combinations of source input devices with destination output devices.

Generally the prior art teaches of routing data.

The prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious wherein said controller forces said input devices to register the plurality of broadcasting patterns when said input devices are initially set.

Claims 3-6 are allowed due to dependency on claim 2.

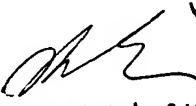
***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Devona E. Faulk whose telephone number is 571-272-7515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Devona E. Faulk/  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2615

  
VIVIAN CHIN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER